AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method for determining patterns in an input string of tokens, comprising steps of:

identifying extensible patterns in the input string;

creating an inexact tree for the input string, using the patterns identified; and

displaying a set of extensible patterns identified by the inexact tree; wherein creating the inexact tree comprises creating nodes and edges, connecting the nodes, wherein each node represents a subset of a string and each edge connects a lower order node to a higher order node; wherein each subset comprises a pattern comprising extensible string; and wherein each extensible string comprises at least one dot token.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a parameter k specifying the minimum times an extensible pattern must occur in a sequence.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of identifying patterns in the input string B comprises creating a rigid string m' from an extensible string m.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of identifying patterns in the input string B comprises extracting a subset of tokens b from the input string B.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 analyzing the subset of tokens b to determine whether the subset is compatible with the rigid string m'.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein if the subset b is compatible with the rigid string m' the subset and the rigid string are concatenated into a new rigid string m_t.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of running a routine for determining whether the concatenated string is non maximal with respect to ~~its~~ nodes of the same order in the tree.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 further comprising removing each node from ~~form~~ the tree that is non maximal with respect to ~~its~~ nodes of the same order in the tree.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein if the magnitude of the location list of the rigid string m' is equal to the magnitude of the location list of the subset of tokens b then the size of the collection of tokens B is reduced by removing the subset of tokens b determined in the step of extracting a subset of tokens from the input string.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein if the number of times the rigid string pattern repeats is greater than the minimum number of times an extensible pattern must occur in a sequence k, then the concatenated extensible string m_t is converted into a rigid string m'.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the method of claim 11 ~~1~~ is performed on the converted rigid string m'.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising identifying a zone for each subsequence of tokens Z_r such that each occurrence of each pattern is fully contained within the zone of the rigid string $Z_{m'}$.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising determining whether the rigid string m' is not maximal with respect to a string of tokens r that are returned from the determination of the routine.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the result of the routine m' is added to a collection of maximal extensible patterns Result.

15. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

an input/output device for receiving information including an input string; and

a processor for identifying extensible patterns;

identifying extensible patterns in the input string;

creating an inexact tree for the input string, using the patterns identified; and

displaying a set of extensible patterns identified by the inexact tree; wherein creating the inexact tree comprises creating nodes and edges, connecting the nodes, wherein each node represents a subset of a string and each edge connects a lower order node to a higher order node; wherein each subset comprises a pattern comprising extensible string; and wherein each extensible string comprises at least one dot token; and

a memory for storing identified patterns and for storing the inexact suffix tree.

16. (Currently amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the input/output device further comprises ~~comprising~~ a CD ROM drive.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the input/output device further comprises a network interface.

18. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the memory further comprises an operating system.

19. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the memory further comprises an application.

20. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium ~~program product~~ for determining patterns in an input string of tokens, comprising instructions for:

identifying extensible patterns in the input string; creating an inexact tree for the input string, using the patterns identified; and

displaying a set of extensible patterns identified by the inexact tree; wherein creating the inexact tree comprises creating nodes and edges, connecting the nodes, wherein each node represents a subset of a string and each edge connects a lower order node to a higher order node; wherein each subset comprises a pattern comprising extensible string; and wherein. each extensible string comprises at least one dot token.